NE Page 23, line 3, after "Douglas W. Dickinson, Jr.", insert--now U.S. Patent No. 4,850,351--; and

NE Line 13, change "60" to--260--.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-43.

Kindly add the following new Claims:

44. A method of performing a surgical procedure for the removal or repair of biological tissue comprising the steps of:

generating a laser beam having a wavelength of between 1.4 and 2.2 microns;

providing a fiber optic cable having a proximal end and a delivery end;

directing the beam into the proximal end of the fiber optic cable;

positioning the delivery end of the fiber optic cable at the surgical site; and

irrigating the surgical site with a liquid medium.

45. A method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the laser beam is generated by a Ho:YAG laser.

46. A method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the laser beam is generated by a Ho:YLF laser.

47. A method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the step of providing a fiber optic cable includes providing a low-OH, silica optic fiber.

48. A method as recited in Claim 44 wherein the step of providing a fiber optic cable includes providing a cable having its delivery end threaded through and supported by a fitting.

49. A method of performing a surgical procedure for the removal or repair of biological tissue comprising the steps of:

generating a laser beam having a wavelength of between 1.4 and 2.2 microns;

directing the beam into one end of a fiber optic cable, with the other end of the fiber optic cable defining the delivery end thereof;

positioning the delivery end of the fiber optic cable adjacent the tissue to be removed or repaired by the laser beam; and

irrigating the tissue with a liquid medium.

50. A method of performing a surgical procedure for the removal of biological tissue comprising the steps of:

generating a laser beam having a wavelength of between 1.4 and 2.2 microns;

directing the beam into a proximal end of a fiber optic cable, with the other end of the fiber optic cable defining the distal end thereof;

positioning the distal end of the fiber optic cable at the surgical site; and

removing tissue at the surgical site with the laser beam.

51. A method as recited in Claim 50 wherein the laser beam is generated by a Ho:YAG laser.

52. A method as recited in Claim 50 wherein the laser beam is generated by a Ho:YLF laser.

53. A method of performing a surgical procedure for the removal of biological tissue comprising the steps of:

providing a fiber optic cable with a proximal end and a distal end, with the fiber optic cable being surrounded by an elongated tubular member;

generating a laser beam having a wavelength of between 1.4 and 2.2 microns;

directing the beam into the proximal end of the fiber optic cable;

positioning the distal end of the fiber optic cable at the surgical site;

removing tissue at the surgical site with the laser beam; and

transmitting a fluid medium to the surgical site.

54. A method as recited in Claim 53 wherein the laser beam is generated by a Ho:YAG laser.

55. A method as recited in Claim 53 wherein the laser beam is generated by a Ho:YLF laser.

56. A method of performing a surgical procedure for the removal of biological tissue comprising the steps of:

generating a laser beam having a wavelength of between 1.4 and 2.2 microns;

directing the beam into a proximal end of the fiber optic cable, with the other end of the fiber optic cable defining the distal end thereof;

positioning the distal end of the fiber optic cable at the surgical site;

removing tissue at the surgical site with the laser beam; and

transmitting a fluid medium to the surgical site.

57. A method of performing a surgical procedure for the removal of biological tissue comprising the steps of:

providing a fiber optic cable with a proximal end and a distal end, with the fiber optic cable being surrounded by an elongated tubular member;

generating a laser beam having a wavelength of between 1.4 and 2.2 microns;

directing the beam into the proximal end of the fiber optic cable;